

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USDELMC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES PRIORITY
DIRNSA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3540

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, GR, US
SUBJECT: US-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: SUPER-
SEDING EXISTING AGREEMENTS (DCA ARTICLE XVII)

REFS: (A) ATHENS 3480 (DTG 181634Z APR 77)
(?) 76 ATHENS 5652 (DTG 081320Z JUNE 76)
(C) STATE 78044 (DTG 072044Z APR 77)

1. DURING APRIL 19 WORKING GROUP MEETING, GREEK SIDE RELATED
THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS, IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE DELAY
A COMPLETE REVIEW OF ALL BILATERAL DEFENSE RELATED AGREEMENTS
WOULD ENTAIL, HAD DIRECTED THEM TO FIND A LESS TIME-CONSUMING
SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF SUPERSESSION. THE GREEK EXPRESSED
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A DESIRE TO FIND A COMPROMISE THAT WOULD SATISFY THE CONCERNS
OF BOTH SIDES.

2. THE GREEKS PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATION TO
THEIR APRIL 18 PROPOSAL (REF A):

(A) LIMIT ARTICLE XVII TO A SINGLE PARAGRAPH SUBSTANTIALLY

ALONG THE LINES OF THEIR PROPOSED PARA 1, ART XVII (REF B).

(B) EXCAHNGE NOTES CONTEMPORANEOUSLY WITH THE SIGNING
OF THE DCA THAT WOULD, AFTER REFERRING TO ARTICLE XVII:

- (1) LIST AGREEMENTS PERTAINING TO THE STATUS OF U.S.
FORCES AND THEIR USE OF MILITARY FACILITIES IN GREECE
THAT WOULD REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL REVISED (WITHOUT
SPECIFYING A TIME LIMIT OR A NEED FOR REVISION);
- (2) EXTEND EXISTING TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL
SUBSTITUTE ARRANGEMENTS EXPLICITLY CALLED FOR BY THE
DCA ARE CONCLUDED; AND
- (3) PROVIDE FOR THE MUTUAL REVIEW OF ALL OTHER BILATERAL
AGREEMENTS RELATING TO OUR SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITHIN
A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME TO DETERMINE THEIR CONTINUED
APPLICABILITY AND CURRENCY. THIS REVIEW WOULD LEAD
TO A SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGE DENOUNCING THOSE AGREEMENTS
WHICH FOR SOME REASON OR OTHER SHOULD BE CANCELLED.

3. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTIONS, THE GREEKS SAID THAT THE
LIST OF SURVIVING AGREEMENTS WOULD BE CONFINED TO THOSE DIRECTLY
RELATED TO MILITARY FACILITIES AND STATUS, SIMILAR TO THOSE
CONTAINED IN PARA 1 (A), REF C, "SURVIVING") AND EXPRESSED
THE BELIEF THAT THERE SHOULD BE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN AGREEING
ON THE LIST. FURTHERMORE, THEY ADDED THAT THE PROVISION
FOR A MUTUAL REVIEW OF ALL OTHER DEFENSE RELATED AGREEMENTS
WOULD INSURE THAT NO VALID AGREEMENT WOULD BE SUPERSEDED
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INADVERTENTLY.

4. GREEKS UNDER TOOK TO PROVIDE TEXT OF THEIR PROPOSAL AT
THE NEXT MEETING.
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